



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

March 21, 2008

To: Directors of Special Education

From: Marilyn Pearson
Interim IDEA Program Manager

Susan Bailey-Anderson
Unit Manager
IDEA Professional Development

Re: Idaho State University
14th Intermountain Special Study Institute on Deafness

Please share this information with educational interpreters, teachers of the deaf and speech-language pathologists who are providing services to students with deafness in K-12 public school settings.

Idaho State University is again sponsoring the *Intermountain Special Study Institute on Deafness* (ISSI). This Institute has been an excellent source of professional development for educational interpreters, speech-language pathologists and teachers of the deaf who are working with students with deafness in our public schools. The Institute also provides an excellent opportunity for these personnel to learn about research-based practices and share instructional strategies with personnel from other states. Information regarding registration, program agenda and other logistics for this conference are available on the following Web site: <http://www.isu.edu/issi/>. Registration opens April 1, 2008.

As in past years, the Office of Public Instruction will pay for the registration fees of speech-language pathologists, educational interpreters and teachers of the deaf who are employed by a public school or special education cooperative and are providing services to a student(s) with deafness. All other costs associated with travel to or attendance at the Institute are up to the individual.

It is permissible for an agency to use its IDEA Part B funds to assist with the cost of this professional development activity, if the agency has such funds available.

If an individual wishes to attend the Institute, they must complete and submit their registration form directly to the Institute (not to OPI).

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

Directors of Special Education

March 21, 2008

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If the individual wishes to have the OPI pay for the registration fee of the Institute, the individual must complete the enclosed form and mail or fax the form, along with a copy of their completed, submitted registration form to the Institute to:

Marlene Wallis
Division of Special Education
Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, Montana 59620-2501
Fax: 406-444-3924

Note: The Office of Public Instruction will not pay for the registration fees of persons who are not employed by a public school and who have not submitted a request for a stipend to the OPI and received OPI approval for the stipend.

Questions regarding this memo and/or the stipend should be directed to Marlene Wallis at 444-2504.

Enclosure



Office of Public Instruction
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

Request for OPI Stipend to Pay Registration Fee to the 2008 ISSI

The OPI will pay the cost of the registration fee for speech-language pathologists, educational interpreters and teachers of the deaf who are employed by the public schools, providing services to students with deafness, and who wish to attend the Intermountain Special Study Institute on Deafness in Pocatello, Idaho, June 9-12, 2008. All other costs associated with attendance at the Institute are the responsibility of the attendee.

It is permissible for districts and cooperatives to use IDEA Part B funds, if available, to pay for the transportation and other costs of the employee to attend this professional development activity.

Name of Employee Attending ISSI: _____

Employee Position: _____
(e.g., Speech-language pathologist, teacher of the deaf, interpreter)

Name of Employing School District: _____

I certify that the above-named individual is an employee of the district/cooperative.

Signature of Director of Special Education
Superintendent or Principal

Attach a copy of the completed registration form that has been submitted to the ISSI.

Mail or Fax this request for a stipend and a copy of the ISSI registration form to:

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